FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 FEBRUARY 1985

Cypriot Plane Hijacked

Armed members of the "Black Brigade" organization took over a Cyprus Airways plane on a Beirut airport runway and demanded the release of two Shi'ite Muslim hijackers held in Nicosia Central Prison, Nicosia radio reported. The 7 February incident ended 5 hours later, according to AFP, when the hijackers surrendered after being told by a Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim Militia delegation that the Cypriot authorities agreed "to consider" their demand.

Lebanon

Following the second stage of the IDF withdrawal in southern Lebanon, a "symbolic presence" will be retained in a security belt for an "indefinite" period, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported citing military sources. The sources maintained that while the government intends to complete the withdrawal, "symbolic" IDF forces will be kept in the area 10 kms north of the international border and north of Hasbayya to the Syrian border until the area is "sufficiently secure."

Meanwhile, protesting the IDF detention operation near Tyre there were a "number of disturbances" in the Tyre, Al-Nabatiyah and Sidon areas including commercial strikes and attempted attacks on IDF patrols, according to Jerusalem and IDF radios.

Israel

A curfew was imposed on the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp as "punishment" for the stoning of an Israeli vehicle, according to Jerusalem radio. Defense sources cited by the radio disclosed that this was part of the "new, tougher" policy towards disturbances in the territories. The sources predicted that the government will renew the policy of deporting "inciters" in the near future.

Sudan

Fifty-two government soldiers were killed in a Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) ambush near Rumbek on 3 February, the clandestine SPLA radio announced. Citing an SPLA spokesman, the radio also reported that following 2 days of "heavy fighting" SPLA forces captured Jokau garrison on 6 February. Meanwhile, eight former "outlaws" were released from prison after providing the government with information on SPLA camps and Ethiopian and Libyan assistance, SUNA disclosed.

Iran

In his Friday prayers sermon, President 'Ali Khamene'i warned Iraq to stop attacks on civilian targets in Iran or face retaliation, IRNA reported. As reported further on Tehran radio, Khamene'i said that if Iraqi attacks continue "during the next 48 hours," Iranian forces "will hit the border cities from Basra to the north," and warned the civilian population of those cities to evacuate.

Pakistan

Military authorities arrested "nearly 200" opposition party leaders and political workers in the last 2 days, Delhi radio reported.

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Babrak Karmal Endorses Delhi Declaration
LD071344 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Kabul, February 6 [BAKHTAR] — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, has recently received a representative of BAKHTAR Information Agency.

Replying to a question raised on the declaration of the heads of the state and governments of six participation counties in New Delhi conference on the urgent questions concerning disarmament especially nuclear one [as received] and in outer space, the text of which has been sent to Babrak Karmal enclosed with a letter by the heads of the state and governments of the participating countries and has already been published in the press of the DRA, Babrak Karmal said: Following a peaceful policy, the PDPA and the Government of the DRA always welcomed and will continue to welcome the constructive initiatives on peace, disarmament, limitation, reduction, and the cessation of arms race.

We consider the unilateral pledge of the Soviet Union declaring that it will not be the first country to use nuclear weapons a major step for the [word indistinct] of nuclear confrontation.

We are expecting that other countries having nuclear weapons should officially do the same.

Likewise, we have given full support to the various initiatives made by the Soviet Union and other countries on the reduction of the danger of nuclear war including the proposal of the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty on mutual non-use of force and that of the Soviet Union's proposal regarding the peaceful utilisation of outer space and the prevention of the spread of the arms race into the outer space.

The PDPA and the Government of the DRA are welcoming the recent talks which were held in Geneva between the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States.

We hope that the continuation of talks will lead to the solution of all sides of the intricate questions relating to nuclear weapons and outer space and to take positive [word indistinct] steps for rescuing humanity from a nuclear catastrophe.

The Delhi declaration indicates that the countries of the people of the world have felt the need for taking urgent measures in preventing an atomic incident and demand that the dazzling arms race especially nuclear one and the drawing of arms race to outer space be strictly prevented.

The Delhi declaration has pointed to the catastrophe of a nuclear confrontation even if it be limited, and condemns nuclear superiority. The declaration demands the immediate and all-sided ban of all nuclear tests and requests that full measures should be adopted for the forestalling of nuclear weapons and prevention of nuclear war. The Delhi declaration, in particular, emphasizes the peaceful use of outer space in the interest of human-kind and demands the prevention of development, testing, production, deployment and use of every kind of weapon in outer space.

The Delhi declaration vividly shows that the people of the world make a clear distinction between the efforts aimed at whipping up the arms race, which increase the threat of a nuclear incident on the one hand, and the constructive initiatives towards reduction and banning of the arms race, as a first step nuclear one, [as received] and ridding peoples of an annihilating war on the other, express their support for measures deterring a nuclear catastrophe.

As we see it, the Delhi declaration contains significant points which are being advocated by the progressive and peaceful humanity and the majority of the non-aligned countries. The DRA approves the initiative of the Republic of India for the convening of the Delhi conference and welcomes the declaration released on January 28 in Delhi by the governments of six participating countries, under the chairmanship of Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India. We are hopeful that all necessary measures directed towards the preventing of a nuclear catastrophe be intensified and that the peoples of the world clearly manifest their demands for the duration of human life on this planet.

General Inspects Military Exercise in Konduz
LD072146 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Brigadier General Gol Aqa, vice chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, accompanied by Sher Aqa Sereshk, head of the northeastern zone; Muhammad Yasin, secretary of the Provincial Party Committee and governor of Konduz, yesterday inspected the military exercise of the Armed Forces in Qala'eh-ye Zal District, Konduz Province.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Konduz City that during this inspection, Brig Gen Gol Aqa expressed appreciation for the order and discipline of the units and companies who took part in this exercise and wished them further success in the defense of the homeland and revolution and in the crushing of counterrevolutionary bands.

CPI-M Leader Killed in South Tripura 7 Feb

BK080322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] According to UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, Mr Binananda Jamatia, a leader of the Communist Party of India-Marxist tribal wing, was killed by some unidentified miscreants in South Tripura yesterday. The chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakraborty, said that another person was also shot dead in the incident. The police have launched intensive combing operations to apprehend the culprits.

Congress-I Party Drops Names From Candidate Lists

HK080720 Hong Kong AFP in English 0654 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 8 (AFP) — The ruling Congress-I Party faces a revolt from its own ranks, as the party has dropped many state legislators from its lists of candidates in forthcoming elections, party sources said today.

They said that electoral rebellion from some 1,000 overlooked deputies in 11 states, dropped in some cases because of the government's drive to weed out corruption, was possible.

Media reports here said that disgruntled Congress-I members were joining together to contest the polls as rebel candidates.

Some 70 state ministers were among the legislators who will not be allowed to run again for Congress-I in the March 2-5 polls, the sources said.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had directed state party units to give tickets only to people with a good image, the sources said.

Party General Secretary Srikunth Verma said the government wanted a new look in the state assemblies.

The states are Bihar, Mr. Gandhi's home states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

The former French colony of Pondicherry, administered from New Delhi, will also have elections at the same time.

The Congress-I is in power in all but two states and has submitted candidates for every seat.

The Congress-I Party won a sweeping general election victory in December over divided opposition parties.

The pruning of Congress-I ranks has already prompted protests in the states, local media reports said.

Several members of the party refused to heed to a call from the Congress-I Party's high command to withdraw their nominations.

Instead they threatened to oppose the party's official candidates, the *STATESMAN* newspaper said.

It is too early to say what impact the reported revolt will have on the prospect of the Congress-I in the states, observers said.

There is, however, little doubt that in certain pockets of Bihar, Utter Pradesh and Rajasthan, the official candidates will have problems.

Congress-I sources, however, said that rebel candidates were not in a position to make any impact on the prospect of the official candidates.

The sources recalled that the Congress-I had faced no problems in the general election from similar rebels, and said most of them had lost their deposits.

But provincial elections in India are fought on regional issues, and factors like the caste of candidates, their wealth and local popularity count for as much as party, observers said.

Reportage on Pakistani Opposition Movement

Political Prisoner Release Demanded

BK070333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Pakistan's main opposition alliance has demanded the release of all political prisoners before the general elections on the 25th of this month. The demand was made in a statement issued in Karachi yesterday at the end of a meeting of the 11-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy [MRD] to mark its 4th anniversary. A spokesman of the MRD told newsmen that the detainees are receiving inhuman treatment and many are kept in fetters. He said the political prisoners, who have been charged, should be tried by civil courts instead of military tribunals.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan president, General Ziaul Haq, has ruled out any possibility of postponement of the elections. He was addressing a news conference in Lahore.

'Nearly 200' Arrested

BK080336 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] The military authorities in Pakistan arrested nearly 200 opposition leaders and political workers in the last 2 days. They include senior members of the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, which has been calling for a boycott of the general elections.

According to an agency report, most of the arrests were made in the Northwest Frontier Province. The leader of the National Democratic Party, Mr Wali Khan, and his wife were among those detained.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan president, General Ziaul Haq, has ruled out any postponement of the general elections to be held on the 25th of this month.

Prominent Arrested Politicians Named

BK080902 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] In Pakistan, a human rights group has demanded release of poli ˙cal prisoners before the general elections in the country.

A spokesman of the group said in Islamabad that about 204 political prisoners are being detained in Punjab and Sind jails, while 86 are being held in three different provinces.

Prominent among the detained are Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, chief of the Pakistan Democratic Party; Malik Mohammad Qasim, leader of the Pakistan Muslim League; and Malik Meraj Khalid, vice president of the Pakistan People's Party.

Madhya Pradesh Government Sued Over Bhopal Leak

BK070331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Excerpt] The Bhopal District judge has admitted a 40 crore rupee suit against the Madhya Pradesh government for its alleged negligence at the time of leakage of the poisonous gas from the Union Carbide plant in December last. The suit has been filed by a resident of Shahjahanabad on behalf of the citizens.

BBC on 'Wave of Arrests' of Opposition Figures

BK080148 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 8 Feb 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] There has been new tension in Pakistan following a big wave of arrests of some of the military government's leading political opponents. The action comes during the runup to this month's general elections, which the opposition is boycotting. From Islamabad, Alex Brodie with the details:

[Begin Alex Brodie recording] The arrests came largely in Northwest Frontier Province. First reports spoke of about 14 members of opposition political parties being rounded up. Later unconfirmed reports put the figure considerably higher. One spoke of well over 100. Full details will take some time to emerge, but it is clear that the military authorities in the province have embarked upon a coordinated and a large-scale roundup of their opponents.

Among those taken to jail are the veteran leader of the National Democratic Party, Wali Khan, and his wife, a political figure in her own right, four other leaders of that party, and the provincial leader of another opposition party in the outlawed Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, the MRD. The MRD and the 11-party alliance is calling for a boycott of the nonparty elections scheduled for later this month.

In Karachi, in the Province of Sind, a former convenor of the MRD, Fatehyab Ali Khan, was also arrested. Reports from there say that he and two political prisoners, already incarcerated, were ordered to be kept in "C" class cell, the lowest category. Political leaders are usually kept in "B" class, where they are allowed certain privileges, for instance, a pad and books. The clampdown in Frontier Province follows action less than 3 weeks ago against leaders of the opposition in Punjab. Most of them are now in prison. [end recording]

Geneva Talks on Afghanistan Postponed Until May

BK080503 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] The fourth round of indirect talks in Geneva in connection with finding a political solution to the Afghanistan problem has been postponed until May this year.

This was disclosed by the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, while talking to newsmen at UN headquarters yesterday. He said the exact date of the Geneva talks will be fixed after consultation with the parties concerned.

He said consultations and proper preparations are necessary before the next round of talks. In reply to a question, Mr Cordovez said there is a possibility that he will visit Islamabad, Kabul, and Tehran before the next round of talks.

About the U.S. attitude toward the process initiated by the United Nations, he said that President Reagan has made encouraging statements in clear terms which were reaffirmed by senior U.S. officials.

Karachi Cites Reports on Mujahidin Actions

BK081135 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have killed a number of Soviet-Karmal troops in a clash on the Jalalabad highway. They also conducted raids on fresh Soviet reinforcements sent to Nangarhar and Paktia Provinces, and knocked out a tank, an armored car, and three supply trucks.

The mujahidin are also reported to have destroyed a tank of a mobile force in (Balkhami) area near Kabul and captured two officials of the Karmal administration.

Khomeyni Praises Soldiers in Martyrs' Day Speech

LD071614 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7, IRNA — The leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, today lauded martyrs of the Islamic Revolution, disabled soldiers and those missing in action as guardians of the revolution.

In a message addressed to relatives of martyrs and disabled combatants and others and read at ceremonies at Behesht-e Zahra public cemetery, in southern Tehran today, the Imam invoked the help of God to cut off the hands of tyrants from Islam and the Islamic Republic.

The following are excerpts from his message on the occasion of the Martyrs Day (February 7) of the Ten-Day Dawn.

"O glorious martyrs, what power and what weapon but your own struggles as well as the struggle of your other brothers and sisters in and behind the fronts could possibly have safeguarded your beloved land amid this turbulent sea which has been the target of endless malice by the West and East and their dependent powers? Your dimsighted enemies, and strangers to spiritual values would not realize that our nation is one like the ark protected at all times by God.

"Equipped with weapons and material devices, your enemies have come to fight with faith and intellect, and they have come to fight against a nation aspiring to the 'master of our time' (the absent imam). And their age-old experience seems to have availed them not. But need we worry at all? Need we fear the billows of the sea of time if a Noah is the master of our ship?...

"Pray thee God for investing more steadfastness and determination upon this nation and for making our people more decided in promoting the goals of Islam, and for awakening Muslim governments from their slumber... Pray thee for reviving the glorious days of Islam, and for cutting off the hands of tyrants and of the cruel people and adventurers from Islam and the Islamic Republic..."

Khamene'i Threatens Iraqi Towns, Cities

LD081024 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Tehran, Feb. 8, IRNA — Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i today warned Iraq to stop attacks against civilian populations in Iran or face retaliation by the Islamic forces.

He said if the attacks continued, Iran would open fire on Iraqi towns and cities after the next 48 hours and would ask residents to leave.

The president, who is the head of the Supreme Defence Council, was speaking at this week's Friday prayers at Tehran University.

In the past few days, Iraq has carried out several air raids against towns and villages in southern and western provinces of the Islamic Republic. On Sunday and Tuesday, Iraqi warplanes fired rockets and dropped cluster bombs on a village and a town in Khuzestan Province, martyring at least four people and injuring many others.

Air raids were also carried out against a village and other rural areas of Bakhtaran Province in the past three days, but so far there have been no reports of casualties or damage.

Iraqi shelling from across the border against the southern port city of Abadan has also claimed several civilian martyrs during this week.

A United Nations team confirmed last month that a number of civilians were martyred and injured by cluster bombs dropped on three villages in Khuzestan Province, where Iraqi planes had attacked a few days before.

Despite an agreement in June last year not to attack civilian targets, Iraq has made numerous attacks on Iranian towns and villages.

Further Report

LD081300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Simultaneous with the glorious anniversary of the Ten-Days of Dawn today, millions of Muslim, revolutionary people throughout our Islamic homeland, by observing the unifying Friday prayers rites, have once again demonstrated their active presence in the redoubt for defending the achievements of the Islamic Revolution and its perpetuation until the coming of the Al-Mahdi revolution. A vast congregation of Tehran citizens today, as on previous Fridays, once again gathered at Tehran University and observed the religious-political Friday prayer rites under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

In his second Friday prayers sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, while recalling the memories of the first days of the revolution and the courage of the military forces, particularly the Air Force, which held a march-past in the presence of the imam of the Islamic nation on 8 February 1979, said: [announcer-read] This action by the committed personnel of the Air Force on that day broke the back of the Shah's regime; and we thank God the Air Force and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, after 6 years, have passed our people's test with flying colors and today the war experience has showed us that the Armed Forces constitute one of the fundamental and decisive elements of this revolution and serve its aims and aspirations.

Referring to the pressures brought to bear by the superpowers and the love of comfort by certain governments, the chairman of the Supreme Defence Council said: At present the peoples of Asia and Africa, where the Islamic countries are situated, are the dupes and playthings of their government's deviations and love of comfort. And the superpowers expected the same from our revolution, so that they could deal a blow at our revolution. After the glorious victory of the revolution in Iran, the United States was waiting to see what it could do. The superpowers' aspiration was to be able to rob the revolution of its Islamic

character, since what harmed them was the Islamic nature of the revolution.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i continued his sermon saying: As a person elected by you, I could forecast that by the grace of God almighty, today, 6 years after Iran's glorious Islamic Revolution, the Islamic hue of this revolution is not less but rather more than what it was on the first day.

Referring to the fact that one of our slogans right from the beginning of the revolution was one of support for the meek nations and the meek throughout the world, Tehran's Friday imam said: Our Constitution has warned us against interfering in the affairs of other countries, but supporting the movements of those nations suffering under the jackboots of world colonialism. This we do not consider interference. As a nation inspired by Islam we cannot help thinking of the peoples of Palestine and Lebanon and cannot remain indifferent to the aggression by the Zionists and usurpers as do most Arab and Islamic countries.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: When Israel committed aggression against Lebanon we were the first country to act immediately and dispatched our fighting forces to Lebanon. But this action of ours was not supported. Today the Lebanese are courageously and decisively standing up to the attacking Zionists and are ready to deal a blow to them; and we, too, will stand beside the Palestine nation until the United States and the Zionists are totally defeated.

This is what the chairman of the defense council added:

[Begin Khamene'i recording] Here, I consider it necessary on this anniversary of the revolution to issue the following warning to the 'Aflaqite rulers of Iraq. These people have always been the ones to start something, but when they are dealt a blow, when they are slapped in the mouth, they are forced to retreat, but do not remain quiet. Once again they have begun their aggression. The same thing has happened in the case of this problem of hitting our cities. How much patience we displayed. How much forbearance we showed when they kept hitting these cities! They hit Dezful, they hit Andimeshk, they hit Ahvaz, they hit Khorramshahr, they hit Abandan, they hit various other cities, they hit dozens of cities not to mention villages! We showed patience and forbearance; we threatened, we advised them, but that did not have the least effect! We said: Very well, now that you are hitting us, we too shall hit you back. And we began hitting them. Iraq's 'Aflaqite regime last year — about this time of the year — felt that it could not bear the situation!

For when it comes to hitting cities our hand is stronger and our might is greater. Therefore, Iraq halted its action. Later, when people from the UN came along and said: Stop hitting the cities and they would not hit yours! We said: Well, we never began this; we only do this in retaliation. Things were quiet for a while, but recently they began once again. Once again they are hitting certain cities. They hit Hoveyzeh, Khorramshahr, Abadan; they hit certain villages. But if they continue, I would like to tell them now — and let them hear this and let this penetrate their ears: If these strikes against cities continue, we in turn will hit Basra [loud cheers]

I ask the world peoples to bear witness; I ask the Iraqi people to bear witness; I ask the people of Basra itself; of 'Imarah, Mandali, and border cities to bear witness that we do not wish to hit you, we do not wish to pound the cities! We know that it is not the people who are fighting us, but how much more can we bear and how can we answer the people of these cities! And we can hit back! We are stronger than they are. By the grace of God, with help from you, O people, with regard to striking at cities, our power on land, on sea, in the air, is greater than that of our enemy. We are not relying on weapons alone. We are relying on our faith, too, which the enemy is not doing! We can hit out.

Therefore, right now and from this rostrum, I would like to send a message to the people of Basra. Let them translate this message into Arabic and let them broadcast it on our radio and television network, on the foreign section, so that the Basra people can hear this! If during the next 48 hours they hit these cities again under the pretext that these places are military cities — which they are not, for cities are not military; if Abadan is military, then Basra, too, is military; if Mehran is military, or Dehloran, then 'Imarah too is military; what does being military mean; would a city become military if a number of military personnel were to come and go there or they had a camp in their vicinity; should the women and children in that city be destroyed under bombs and missiles!; why!?; — if during the next 48 hours these people continue their action by hitting these cities, we too will hit the border cities, from Basra to the north.

I now tell the peoples of these cities, I inform them to vacate the cities and not to subject themselves to fire and death since we are forced to hit those cities and, God willing, we will hit them! [end recording]

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Holds Press Conference

GF080945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] On the eve of the 7th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis, yesterday afternoon held a radio and television press conference and answered questions from local and foreign correspondents on various subjects. The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council said on the question of war: The fact that we have been saying for a long time that we will launch our final attack is proof of our preparedness. We are ready to attack when we see that the necessary conditions are present. At the moment, however, the political aspects of the war are more important to us than the military aspects, because on most points we are on the borderline. Our preparedness is secure and our attack depends on political issues. Whenever we see conditions are opportune, we will launch our final attack.

In answer to a question from a Japanese correspondent, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said on the visit by Mr Hafiz al-Asad to the Islamic Republic: The visit by Mr Hafiz al-Asad is taking place at the invitation of our president, but the timing of the visit depends on the president of Syria. In view of the common stand and common ideas that exist between the two countries, we do not think that this visit will have anything to do with mediation. The Majlis speaker added that the question of the latest political

move in relation to mediation was not a new one. These moves started the day signs of Iraq's defeat became apparent. However, so far nothing has been proposed to us in connection with mediation. If Al-Asad wanted to talk to us about the war, he should accept that the Ba'thist Party is to be blamed. In that case we can sit and discuss what should be done with the aggressor.

Later at this conference Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Iraq, as far as its domestic affairs and the regional problems are concerned, has resorted to some unsuccessful military moves, even in the Ten-Days of Dawn period. Since we did not want to do likewise, we defended ourselves. They have begun a propaganda war and have exaggerated things. As proof they put on exhibition a few prisoners who were actually mercenaries.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council said on the subject of attacking residential areas by the Iraqi regime: We have had a similar experience with Iraq in the past, and our policy remains the same. Now we announce that if Iraq continues to bombard our cities and villages we will do likewise and in retaliation we will bomb the city of Basra.

Regarding the economic question and the income tax bill, he said: The economic foundation of our country is quite clear in the constitutional law. However, sometimes differences arise in their interpretation. In such cases the views of the guardian council reign supreme. Regarding income tax, there was some difference of opinion among the clergy as to whether the question of income tax was a primary matter or a secondary one in the Islamic Republic system. This difference was removed after the imam's views were made known on the subject. As you know, in the first reading the bill was passed with a large majority of about two-thirds of the votes cast. In any case this will be dealt with by the experts. This bill must overcome all the hurdles that other bills overcome. A fair and just law should be passed.

Regarding the success of the Islamic Revolution on the world level, he said: The Islamic Revolution of the Islamic Republic has proved that a revolution and a system can stand on its feet even though it has to confront both blocs of the East and West. We have seen opposition from both East and West. They support our domestic and foreign enemies. Nevertheless, despite this support, our revolution has remained steadfast. Away from our borders, the Lebanese nation is a sign of our victory. We see today that the Lebanese nation continues its fight with full force.

Regarding prices fixed by OPEC, the Majlis speaker said: Lowering the price will have a negative effect in the region. We believe that the prices should correspond to world inflation. However, it is regretted that due to activities of some Arab countries in the region, the price of oil was lowered. This will harm us and will benefit our enemies. If we had not opposed it, it is quite possible that the price may have been lowered further. The final stand of our minister of petroleum in support of Libya and Algeria resolved the crisis. Lowering prices may awaken the people in our region; it might prove effective in the fall of the reactionary regimes. This would be a positive step.

He also said: There are many benefits that the Islamic Revolution has brought us. An example: support of the deprived and boosting Islamic culture, and rejecting the satanic culture in the country. Similar support for the people of Afghanistan, Lebanon, and other places are effective examples of the success of our revolution. However, we have a long way to go to completely Islamise the system. We hope that in thought and clashes with each other, Iran will become a center for exchanging thoughts on the global level and a center for the support and growth of Islam.

Regarding world opinion toward the Islamic Revolution, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: America and its gang are definitely enemies of the Islamic Revolution. They know that if one day Islam rises it will create problems for many. It is on this account that they do not want us to continue along Islamic lines any further. They oppose us with all resources at their disposal. As far as our domestic enemies are concerned, such people as monarchists and other treacherous people who have fled the country and feel uneasy about current conditions in Iran, are busy deceiving people with misinformation and false rumors. This has roots in our legitimacy. Since it is the world powers that mold public opinion, they are busy inciting these opinions. This confrontation will continue as long as we have this revolutionary characteristic and as long as they maintain their role as world oppressors.

The Majlis speaker, referring to the spirit of the people in support of the Islamic Revolution, said that war and bureaucracy are very dangerous. We have suffered had much damage in the war so far. One-third to one-fourth of our budget is now swallowed by the war. But we have been able to use the war to awaken the people and to fight the problems that threaten the revolution. Regarding bureaucracy, which is a legacy from the last regime, we could not turn our confrontation into a Marxist revolution. We could not take steps in a general way. It was on this account that we worked on plans. In the future we also will try to set up a good administrative system with capable persons.

Regarding our relations with the Soviet Union and the problem of the Tudeh Party, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Our relations with the Soviet Union have to some extent improved when compared with the past. There are positive opportunities for trade and industry for the two countries. With cooperation we can resolve some of our difficulties. Lately we have seen that the supply of arms from the Soviet Union to Iraq has decreased to some extent. This has helped to improve relations.

Regarding Afghanistan, the problem is the same as in the past. As long as the Soviet Union does not withdraw from Afghanistan, we will continue to differ with them on this. Regarding the Tudeh Party, as long as they were not involved in treachery with the Islamic Republic system, they were only working here and we had nothing to do with them. As soon as we knew of their treachery, their activities were stopped and they were arrested. This is an entirely domestic issue that does not concern any foreign country.

The Majlis speaker referred to the party laws and the Constitution, saying: According to the Constitution our party system is a multi-party system. Parties are free to work within that system. Any party that is not belligerent and does not oppose our system is free to function.

Regarding the joint meetings between the Cabinet and Majlis, he said these were useful. There was nothing exceptional about them. If such meetings prove to be useful in running the affairs of the country and in resolving the country's problems, then we will decide to discuss important problems of the country at such meetings.

Regarding the two ideas of running the economy by the private or the public sector, he said: Some wanted it to remain public and others wanted to keep it private. But when both sides gradually learned of the difficulties, they balanced their views. Those who supported a public sector economy came to realize that the private sector can solve many of their problems. The private sector also appreciated the importance of participation by government in economics. Both ideas are gradually coming closer together.

In answer to a question by a Japanese correspondent, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the past activities of the Hojjatiyeh society during the shah's time were aimed at combating Baba'ism. Now that this question does not exist, and after the directives of the imam, they halted their activities. Now there is no difference between this society and the Islamic Republic system. They are doing their own jobs wherever they are.

Regarding the welfare of the Army and the guards corps he said: Salaries of the guards personnel are lower than that of the Army. The guards corps salaries have all along corresponded to the standard of living of the most deprived people. However the salaries of Army personnel are paid according to the country recruitment laws. This situation prevails according to the wishes of the guards themselves; they have selected this as a sacrifice and endeavor. They do not think about seeking welfare.

In conclusion, and in answer to a question by an Australian television correspondent, he said: We want the people of the world to visit our country and see it from close at hand. We want foreign correspondents to work in our country so that they can show the outside world the realities of our society and our country.

Musavi Addresses Kurdestan Guards Corps Members

LD071929 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 7 Feb 85

["Musavi Lauds IRGC as Bulwark Against Iran's Enemies" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said to a group of visiting members of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) of Kurdestan Province today that the Islamic Republic relies on the IRGC and on the Muslim combatants for any encounter with the country's foreign enemies.

Musavi said ever since its establishment, the Islamic Republic has been antagonised by Western and Eastern powers because it is a political system aligned with neither of them.

Aids to Saddam Husayn and the uninterrupted supply of complicated arms to Baghdad demonstrates the gravity of enmity with Iran by Iraq's Western and Eastern supporters, he said.

Musavi told the visiting group that Iran's Muslim combatants have proven that even in the battlefronts, the power of faith can outmaneuver a complicated war machinery used by a people bereft of a sublime religion.

Iraqi Air Attacks on Civilian Areas Kill Four

LD071639 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Pr. Feb. 7 IRNA — Invading Iraqi planes bombarded rural areas in Dar Bailut and near Gilan-e Gharb in Bakhtaran Province at 11:00 hours (07:30 GMT) Wednesday.

A shepherd was injured and some of his livestock were killed in this attack.

This is the fourth Iraqi air raid against civilians in Iran in five days. On Sunday and Tuesday, two villages in Khuzestan Province were attacked by enemy planes as a result of which four people were martyred and 25 others wounded.

Further on Air Attacks

LD071900 Tehran IRNA in English 1846 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Pr., Feb. 7, IRNA — Iraqi planes violated the air space of several cities and villages in Bakhtaran Province during the preceding 24 hours, and carried out attacks on the rural areas of the province.

The enemy aircraft flew over Islamabad-e Gharb, Gilan-e Gharb, Sar Pol-e Zahab and Bakhtaran Wednesday evening, and attacked two rural areas of the province.

There were no reports of casualties or damage from either attack.

Iran's Muslim combatants killed or wounded 23 Iraqi soldiers in the western battlefronts of Bakhtaran Province in the same period, also destroying one tank, one ammunitions depot, one logistical bridge and nine small and large bunkers were also destroyed.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,997

LD071732 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7 IRNA — Enemy concentration points and fortifications in northwestern operational region came under heavy Iranian fire on Wednesday, said Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces in its 1997th communique issued Thursday. It said the Islamic combatants thwarted enemy activities and destroyed part of their defensive lines.

In the western theatre, exchange of fire raged between the two sides in the Sumar front. In the Mehran front, enemy vehicles were put under fire and their movements disturbed. Some casualties were inflicted on the Iraqis in this action.

The timely reaction of the Islamic combatants thwarted the activities of an enemy patrol group in Maymak front.

Two enemy observation posts were destroyed and six Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in the western fronts, said the communique.

In the southern fronts, it added, parts of enemy positions and fortifications were destroyed. West of the Arvand River, 14 enemy group bunkers were set ablaze.

The communique concluded by saying that six buildings and a shop were damaged in Abadan on Wednesday, by long range Iraqi fire.

Red Cross Pressures UN To Modify POW Reports
LD071839 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7, IRNA — A ranking Foreign Ministry official indicated today that the International Red Cross [IRC] is apparently exerting "serious political pressure" on the U.N. secretary general, to modify a report on the condition of Iraqi and Iranian POW's.

Asked by IRNA on the delay in the publishing the U.N. report, the official said any realistic report on Iran's treatment of the Iraqi POW's would naturally raise strong doubts on the impartiality of previous reports by the IRC.

A report was due to be handed to the U.N. secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, by a three-man investigating team last Friday [1 February].

The team toured camps in Iraq and Iran from Jan. 11-25. In Iran, the delegation declined a request by Iranian authorities to extend their one-week stay and carry out further investigations.

The Foreign Ministry official expressed hope that U.N. secretary general would not heed the recommendation of the IRC and that he would have the U.N. publish a verbatum copy of the original report, thereby maintaining its integrity, impartiality and good reputation.

The positions taken by the secretary general and his special delegations in regards to the war in recent months have been generally objective, the official added.

In the past 18 months, reports gathered by U.N. fact-finding delegations have overwhelmingly implicated Iraq for violating international law on attacks on civilian targets, use of chemical weapons, and attacks on commercial shipping in the Persian Gulf.

Ten-Days of Dawn Guests Comment on War's Ravages
LD071208 Tehran IRNA in English 0706 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Province, Feb 7, IRNA — Foreign guests of the Ten-Day Dawn ceremonies, currently visiting southern warfronts, once again Wednesday condemned Iraqi attacks against residential areas in Iran. The guests, outraged by the Baghdad regime's crimes committed in Khorramshahr, in Khuzestan Province, compared the Iraqi crimes to what Hitler did during the World War II. A Lebanese guest said that Iraqi attacks against Khorramshahr were even severer than Zionist aggressions in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the Pakistani journalist Asghar Boukhari stressed that the superpowers had failed to harm the Islamic Revolution of Iran, adding that the revolution was continuing its path successfully.

Some 200 foreign guests, currently here to take part in the ceremonies to mark the sixth anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, in a three-day visit to a number of cities in southern Iran, visited areas devastated by the Iraqi regime in its imposed war against Iran.

Revolutionary Guards Corps Maneuvers Reported
LD071353 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] (Kelareh) Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Members held maneuvers, codenamed Ya Zahra, in the desert near the town last night [as heard]. The maneuvers were held in order to prepare the popular forces for dispatch to battlefields, and to mark the 6th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution victory.

According to a Central News Unit report, more than three battalions of the combat and logistic forces from the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni project of (Kelareh) participated in the maneuvers, which will continue for three more nights. [as heard]

FRG Diplomat Handed Protest on Bank Bombing
LD071604 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb 7 IRNA — The West German charge d'affaires in Tehran was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry Thursday and handed a strong protest note on the indifferent attitude of the West German authorities regarding Wednesday's fire-bomb attack on the Melli (National) Bank of Iran, in Frankfurt.

The German diplomat was urged to inform German officials of the Islamic Republic's protest as soon as possible.

The explosion caused extensive damage to the bank.

Ardabili Meets With Lebanese Muslim Leader
LD071845 Tehran IRNA in English 1819 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7, IRNA — Chief Justice 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili emphasised on solidarity among Lebanese Muslims in their struggle against the Zionist regime.

The chief justice made the remark in a meeting today with the leader of Lebanon's Islamic Towhid Movement, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, who briefed him on the situation in north Lebanon, and Islamic unity.

Ardabili voiced Iran's support for the rightful struggle of the Lebanese Muslims.

Shaykh Sha'ban has also met with Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati during his stay in the Islamic Republic on the occasion of the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

Sha'ban Addresses Prayers Meeting

LD081041 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 8, IRNA — The leader of a Muslim community in Lebanon today called for all ulema in the world to support the Islamic Revolution and said Muslims in Lebanon are hoping for the day when the Islamic Revolution in Iran joined them in the struggle for the liberation of all Islamic lands.

Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, the leader of the Islamic Towhid Movement in North Lebanon, said the Islamic Revolution created "an earthquake in the land of the arrogant — that history cannot remember anything similar — and brought great joy to Muslims."

Addressing tens of thousands of worshippers through an Arabic translator at this week's Friday prayers in Tehran, Shaykh Sha'ban said Islam is the only creed that "will save Muslims from abasement and slavery."

"It is the duty of all ulema in Iran and everywhere in the world to be on the side of truth and approve of this revolution — a revolution that confused all global calculations, a revolution that gave new life to these people...," he said.

Shaykh Sha'ban added: "Great accomplishments have been realised in this country and it is upon all of us to keep them and protect them.

"Any move against these accomplishments would in reality be ingratitude to he blessings of the exalted god..," Shaykh Sha'ban said.

"I am speaking to your from Lebanon, where there is a united revolution against polytheists, infidels...and global crusaders...

"Your brothers in Lebanon are...confronting Jews in order to begin their movement for the liberation of Qods (Jerusalem) and the land of Palestine...

"I have brought you the warm greetings of the Muslim people of Lebanon — the warm greetings of revolutionary Muslim mujahids who have revolted in one of the most sensitive borders of Islam and have the wish to see their revolution joined with your revolution and to continue on their victorious path until the liberation of all Islamic countries from American colonialism and Soviet domination..."

Shaykh Sha'ban has been invited to the Islamic Republic along with 200 other scholars and activists from 65 countries on the 6th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution (Feb. 11).

He has met with a number of high-ranking Iranian officials and conferred on the situation in Lebanon and the Muslim world.

Iran, Yugoslavia Sign $700 Million Agreement

LD072145 Tehran IRNA in English 1941 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7, IRNA — Iran and Yugoslavia signed a dlrs-700-million trade agreement Thursday for 1985, up dlrs 100 million agreed upon in 1984.

The agreement, signed by Iran's Economics and Finance Minister Hoseyn Namazi and Yugoslavia's cabinet minister Nedeljko Mandic, includes Iran's export of 1.5 million tons of oil to Yugoslavia.

Namazi said Yugoslavia has also agreed to purchase non-oil goods from Iran worth 15 percent of the value of goods purchased by Iran from that country.

In addition, Iran has expressed interest in purchasing 200,000 tons of wheat and 200,000 tons of corn from Yugoslavia, he said.

He added that a joint committee would monitor implementation of the agreement.

Yugoslav Delegation Departs

LD080942 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb 8, IRNA — A Yugoslav delegation headed by Cabinet minister Nedeljko Mandic, left Tehran today at the end of its seven-day visit to Tehran.

Mandic told reporters before his departure that his visit had helped broaden the relations between Iran and Yugoslavia.

An agreement signed here Thursday between the two countries calls for increasing bilateral trade to dlrs 700 million.

Iran, Brazil Agree To Form Ministerial Committee

LD071832 Tehran IRNA in English 1452 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 7, IRNA — An Iranian Foreign Ministry official, [word indistinct] at the head of a delegation, met with the country's deputy agriculture minister, Leonidas Maia Albuquerque, Wednesday.

During the meeting, the Brazilian official expressed satisfaction with his visit to the Islamic Republic last week. He said he believed there was considerable potential for bilateral cooperation.

The Foreign Ministry director general for economic affairs, Mohammad Hussein Adeli, also conferred with Brazilian energy and mines minister, Cesar Filho.

They discussed cooperation between the two countries in oil and mines exploration.

Meanwhile, the Iranian delegation also met with the deputy foreign minister of Brazil and submitted a written message of Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati for his Brazilian counterpart. Adeli said he hoped the Iran-Brazil Ministerial Committee, which has been principally agreed upon, would meet and discuss plans for the development of relations. Saying that his country is willing to establish friendly ties with Iran, the Brazilian deputy foreign minister expressed hope that mutual relations would expand in all fields. The two countries signed the draft of an agreement on the formation of a Joint Ministerial Committee Wednesday, to be signed by foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic and Brazil.

SAIRI Issues Statement on Iraqi Anniversary

GF072032 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] The Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] has issued a statement on the anniversary of the revolution carried out by the Ba'thists in Iraq on 8 February 1963.The statement stresses that the continued rule of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime and its hegemony over Iraq is increasingly rendering the Iraqi people vulnerable to imperialist aggressions.

The statement calls on the Muslim Iraqi people to adopt a brave stand and end the rule of the Iraqi regime.

The statement says that the Iraqi people consider the 1963 coup d'etat a beginning for the hegemony of the Ba'thist Party and the inauspicious coup of 17 July 1968.

The SAIRI statement stresses [illegible] their history the Iraqi people have never witnessed s[illegible] events. The Ba'thists have carried out massacres, made thousands of Iraqis homeless and confiscated their property, killed religious leaders, arrested Muslims, spread hatred and corruption, destroyed the Iraqi economy, and eradicated the Iraqi Army.